

Message Text

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62

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-10 SSO-00 RSC-01 /037 R

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NEA:SSOBER

S/S: JPMOFFAT

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O R 210113Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 256610

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:SA, US, OTRA

SUBJECT:VISAS FOR SEYMOUR TOPPINGS

REF: (A) STATE 248858; (B) JIDDA 6340

1. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND DIFFICULTIES INVOLVED IN SPEEDING UP PROCESS SAUDI APPROVAL OF VISAS. HOWEVER THERE NOW LESS THAN WEEK TO GO BEFORE TOPPING LEAVES U.S. (NOV. 25) AND IT BECOMING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT FOR US TO RESPOND TO HIS INQUIRIES, GIVEN FACT HE APPROACHED SAUDI CONSUL GENERAL AND US ABOUT VISA OVER MONTH AGO.

2. IN AGAIN RAISING THIS CASE WITH SAG SUGGEST AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZE TOPPING'S CREDENTIALS, HIS STANDING IN NEW YORK TIMES AND PUBLIC RELATIONS BENEFIT FOR SAUDI ARABIA FROM SUCCESSFUL VISIT. WE SEE NO REASON WHY TOPPING SHOULD NOT BE TREATED IN SAME MANNER AS CY SULZBERGER, WHO HAS VISITED KINGDOM. TOPPING HAS DISCUSSED VISIT WITH UN PERMANENT BAROODY, WHOM HE KNOWS. ACCORDING TO
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TOPPING, BAROODY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT VISIT AND SAID HE

WOULD CABLE KING RECOMMENDING HE RECEIVE TOPPING.

3. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST STATUS TOPPING VISA APPLICATION.
INGERSOLL

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